

# Queries AND Answers

## The Great Reunion.

Please state exactly when the Confederate Reunion will begin. COLORADO.  
At 10 A. M., May 30, 1907.

## Pension to Ex-Slaves.

Be good enough to inform me if there is a law providing for pensions to negro slaves in North Carolina. READER.  
None that we ever heard of.

## Presidential Term.

Please inform me if any President was ever elected by the people to serve three terms. GARFIELD.  
No.

## Carpenter Hall.

Will you please let me know where "Carpenter Hall" is? OLD SUBSCRIBER.  
In Philadelphia.

## Old Coin.

Please tell me the value of United States half dollar of 1795. A SUBSCRIBER.  
About 70 cents.

## Poem Wanted.

Will you be good enough to publish the poem beginning "Saint Peter stood at the golden gate"? SUBSCRIBER.  
Will some one send copy?

## An Address.

Please give me the address of the President of the Jamestown Centennial. O. B. B.  
Hon. H. St. George Tucker, Norfolk, Va.

## Telephone Law.

J. H. F. states a case and asks advice touching certain phases of law governing use of telephones. The matter is one for a lawyer.

## Poem Wanted.

Many of your subscribers would like to see in print the poem, "Rastus on the School." Will you publish it? A SUBSCRIBER.  
Let some one send copy.

## Berkeley Estate.

Will you give me name and address of present owner of "Edgewood," the old Berkeley home in Hanover? M.  
The name is "Edgewood." Owner's name, etc., N. B. Noland, Orifley, Va.

## Turpin's Ride.

I desire to get a copy of "Dick Turpin's Ride to York." Can you help me? A SUBSCRIBER.  
It is likely your bookseller can locate it for you in some volume of "collections."

## Author, Etc., Wanted.

Be good enough to let me know name of author of "The Forgery," and where I may get a copy. D. H.  
G. P. R. James. There are many editions. Probably your bookseller can get it for you.

## Not in the Bible.

Please tell me where, in the Bible, I may find the quotation, "God tempests the wind to the storm lamb." ROBINSON.  
Our quest is far afield. The words are in Laurence Sterne's "Sentimental Journey—Maria."

## Area of Plot.

Please give area of piece of land with following sides: 75 ch., 6 ft., 16 ch., 20 ft., etc. etc. OLD SUBSCRIBER.  
You will have to let us know an angle or length of line joining two opposite corners. You would better send rough sketch of plot.

## Book Wanted.

Where can I find an English literature with a biography of the principal authors of the Victorian Age, and also the characteristics of the writers of the same age? A READER.  
Write to the Bell Book and Stationery Company, Richmond, Va.

## Poem Wanted.

Can you publish for me a poem, "The Fallen," which appeared in the old Southern Literary Messenger about 1865? X. X. X.  
We shall be pleased to do so if some one will send copy and it is not too long.

## Continental Currency.

Please let me know the value of \$50 Continental notes. W. M. T.  
So little that it would not pay for the trouble of selling.

## Old Times.

Be kind enough to tell me who first wore trousers, and when and by whom cooking was introduced. A SUBSCRIBER.  
There is no hope of satisfactory answer to the questions.

## Plow Land.

A plow for B. at \$2 an acre, a piece of land 129 yards long and 17

yards wide at one end and 42 yards at the other. How much should be paid? W. M. J.

5,740 square yards, amounting, at the given rate, to \$23.55.

## Day of the Week.

Please tell me what day of the week was November 6, 1838. D. G. N.  
Tuesday.

## Cough in Cow.

Please give me a remedy for cough in a cow. SUBSCRIBER.  
From the history given, it seems that this may be a case of tuberculosis, and it would be well to have some veterinarian to see this animal and be guided by him.

Please tell me if there was ever a company known as the St. Andrew's Bay Railroad Land and Mining Company of Florida. A SUBSCRIBER.

Write to W. C. Lockey, clerk County Court, Vernon, Washington county, Fla.

## Veterans.

Will you let me know whether the recent pension laws of the United States apply to Confederate or to Spanish-American veterans? Where may I get information and forms for application? LUMBERTON.

Spanish-American. Bureau of Pensions, Washington, D. C.

## Surnames.

What is the origin of surnames, and when were they first used, etc.? MISS K. F.

The subject is an enormous one. Let our friend consult some such work as Bardsley's "Surnames, Their Sources and Signification." It may be got in any book store or library, and would give a really satisfactory view of the matter, which we cannot give here.

## Insurance Companies.

Please give me the names of a number of insurance organizations and give your opinion of their reliability. SUBSCRIBER.

We prefer not to give firm names in this column, and could in no case give "opinions" as to business standing. Write or phone the State Insurance Commissioner, Colonel Joseph Patton.

## A Quotation.

Please tell me what Thackeray means by "vixere fortes ante Agamemnon, At Thackeray tickles his readers with the suggestion that the phrase is so well known to all cultivated folk that it needs only be hinted at.

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## Rheumatism Can't Stay

100,384 when the sufferer gets under the cover of the medicine of MULLER'S FAMOUS PRESCRIPTION 100,384. This medicine has proved the superior remedy for rheumatism. It is not a stimulant and well established. It is the only REAL CURE for Rheumatism and Gout—any case of rheumatism or GOUT, no matter how long it has been in the system. At drug stores, the bottles. Booklet mailed free. W. H. H. MULLER, University Place, New York.

assessment or co-operative life company cannot transfer its risks to or reinsure them in any other corporation unless the contract of reinsurance is first submitted to and approved by a two-thirds vote of a meeting of the insured.

## Dahlgren's Raid.

Can you tell me what time of Federal troops it was that came down the canal, and when near the city turned off and went below Richmond where Dahlgren was killed? J. C. V.  
The men were picked from several regiments, and were under the command of Major E. S. Cook, Second New York Cavalry.

## Sentence in Grammar.

A friend has just argued with me that the sentence, "Please to send me your catalogue" is correct. I maintain that it should read, "Please send me your catalogue." Please advise through your Query Column which is correct and oblige. A SUBSCRIBER.  
You are right. The verb send is imperative mood. "To send" would be infinitive. The sentence complete should read thus: "Send me your catalogue, if you please."

## Thaw Trial.

Please tell me why the medical witnesses in the "Thaw case" are referred to as "expert alienists." WEST POINT.

A recent and not very judicious use makes "alienist" apply to one learned in the various forms of insanity. Alien means strange, and the use grows out of the "strange" and uncommon actions which furnish the supposition of insanity.

## Too Much for Us.

To bring to a close an argument in which one of my friends and I are continually engaged, will you please answer from your own judgment and knowledge of the necessity of colleges for the welfare of the nation, deeply considering from every standpoint of view in the business and social life of man, the following question: How many years would America be going down, in every possible way, to what might be termed "the depth of utter darkness," if A. RAUPLAR, ISSUES.

As a valuable line for "original research," the above might be commended to the University of Chicago.

## A Quotation.

Please tell me where I can find the lines, "Where none are beaux, 'tis vain to be a belle." I heard them quoted lately against your contention that "none" denotes a plural verb after it.

The lines come from Lytton's Soho-Bloody on a Beauty in the Country. The English pronoun "none" is "no one," and should be used as singular number. For turns sweet as the poets make, we all are glad to sacrifice some formal grammar.

## Summer Normals.

1. Please tell me whether there will be a summer normal for teachers held at Farmville this summer? Also, do the teachers' examination will be held in May? A TEACHER.

Please print this in your next paper. 2. Teachers' examinations will be held as follows: First examination on May 24, 30, 4th; second examination, July 29th, 30th and 31st. Professional Examinations—First year course, July 29th; second year, July 30th; third year, July 31st.

## Jew's Harp.

Is there any sense in the name "Jew's harp," and did the Jews ever use the instrument more than any one else? MANNING.

The name is likely a corruption of "Jaw's harp," from the use of the jaws in holding the instrument. The same contrivance is sometimes called a "Jew's trumpet," and this name is a corruption of the French term Jeu-trompe, a play trumpet.

## Two Problems.

Please solve the following for me: (1) Divide 60 bushels of wheat among three persons, so that one may get one-third, another one-fourth and the last one-fifth.

(2) A triangle has base 450 yards and two sides 200 yards. What is the altitude? A. F. W.

The first problem is impossible, as one-third, one-fourth and one-fifth do not make the whole. Were the fractional parts one-half, one-third and one-sixth, or any other fractions whose sum would be unity, the problem would be solvable.

In the second case, draw the triangle and let fall the perpendicular from the vertex. This is the altitude, and will divide the base into two equal parts. Using one of the two triangles into which the original has been divided one sees that it is a right-angled triangle, and that the hypotenuse (200) and the base (225) are known. The square root of the difference of the squares of these lines will give the required altitude.

Can an insurance company, doing life insurance, sell out and compel its members to transfer to another company without their consent; and in case they sell out can the company be compelled to give the members their money back? A READER.

The stockholders of a life insurance company have the right under the law to sell out to another company, and to transfer its policy-holders to such company, which, when this is done, assumes all the liability of the original company under its policy contracts. An

assessment or co-operative life company cannot transfer its risks to or reinsure them in any other corporation unless the contract of reinsurance is first submitted to and approved by a two-thirds vote of a meeting of the insured.

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## GREAT WORK OF NORMAL LEAGUE

Interesting History of Organization Given by Miss Lula O. Andrews.

## HOW IT HELPS YOUNG LADIES

Affords Opportunity to Those Who Wish to Prepare for Teaching.

At the Conference for Education held in November in Richmond, Miss Lula O. Andrews, of the faculty of the Farmville State Normal School, spoke to me of the noble work of the Virginia Normal League. Her story stirred me so deeply that I asked her to write me a history of the league, with a few concrete illustrations of what it is accomplishing.

Miss Andrews writes me as follows: "There is, at the State Normal School at Farmville, an organization which, though not widely enough known outside of school circles, is very dear to the hearts of its members—dear because of its noble purpose and the work already accomplished; dear because of the opportunity for service which it offers to all who have a sincere desire to be helpful to others in need, though necessarily in a small way sometimes.

"This society, known as the Virginia Normal League, was organized nearly nine years ago by Dr. Robert Frazer when he was president of the school. It has constantly grown in membership, and is now warmly supported by several hundred students, the president and the majority of the faculty. Many alumnae, too, and it is the strongest, sweetest thing binding them to Alma Mater, and year after year faithfully remember their dues and make loving inquiries concerning the progress of the work.

"The State of Virginia gives free tuition at the Normal School to several hundred girls. There are many, however, who cannot take advantage of these scholarships, though they are girls of the worthiest type, with fine minds and characters, and a great longing for an education; their means being limited, they cannot even afford to pay their board here so as to avail themselves of these gifts of the State. The main purpose of the league is to maintain an aid fund to help such girls attend school, so that they may be trained as teachers and become self-supporting and a means of support, perhaps, to loved ones dependent upon them.

"All persons," says the constitution, "connected with the administration, the faculty, the society of alumnae, or the student body of the State Normal School, are eligible to regular membership on the payment of one dollar a year. Upon the payment of a like fee, worthy persons not connected with the school may be elected to associate membership." There are only two or three associate members now, though a few small gifts have been added to the aid fund by friends here and there.

The league has increased to a little more than a thousand dollars—not a great amount, except as measured by its results. Every cent of it is in constant use, and fifteen young ladies have received aid, not as gifts, but as loans, which are returned in easy payments, without interest, and with no pressure, after the beneficiaries have secured positions to teach.

"The young ladies who have been enabled to attend school are of such high character and ability as to reflect credit upon the institution and do good work in the public schools of the State. They show their gratitude and their staunch integrity by the touching sacrifices which they make in order to pay back the money as soon as possible, so that it may help some other girl to enjoy the same privilege.

"The first beneficiary of the league, after leaving school, taught in a family, receiving her board and four dollars a month in money for her services. She voluntarily sent two dollars of that regularly each month to the chairman of the finance committee until her debt to the league was canceled, leaving just eighteen dollars a session for her own clothes and incidental expenses.

"The second girl who received a loan died, leaving ten dollars unpaid. The league, of course, had not the slightest intention or desire to collect that from her family, who were in somewhat straitened circumstances. But they looked upon it as a sacred obligation, and by loving sacrifice among themselves saved, cent by cent, the ten dollars. It was a proud, glad day to them when they turned over that amount to the league, which could not

spoil the fineness of the act by refusing to accept the money.

"Still another young lady received, as a teacher, a yearly salary of a hundred and twenty-five dollars, but out of this she insisted upon returning seventy-five dollars of her loan in one session, though that left only fifty dollars for her own and her mother's needs. One can but wonder by what miracle she managed it.

"Every year the league is sorrowfully compelled to turn away deserving girls because it has no more money at its disposal. There are scores of fine girls who need friendly, sympathetic help just long enough to give them a start, but the aid committee can spend only what it actually has.

"Before the league was organized a young lady came to Farmville and took her dead mother's watch, her one treasured possession, to the bank, begging the cashier to take it and let her have money enough to start to school. She was almost in despair when the watch was rejected with the explanation that it could be of no possible use to the bank. At last, the officials, seeing her grievous disappointment, offered to lend her fifteen dollars without other security than her promise to return it as soon as she could. She gratefully accepted it, and eked out a scanty living while she studied, until friends were found to help her to better purpose.

"Not so very long ago an ambitious girl, bent upon an education, but hindered and discouraged by an unsympathetic, poverty-stricken family, took matters into her own brave hands and came to Farmville, arriving with thirty cents in her pocket. Had her distress not won her friends she would have been compelled to go back home and drudge on without schooling, though she was made of that fine stuff that could acknowledge without shame that she had never owned a pair of gloves in her life, and that could wear, without complaining, a summer hat long after cold weather had come and foolish girls had laughed at her. The league could not have

helped her, though so worthy; its slender funds were already promised to others.

"Such are the girls—girls of superb courage and ardent longings for better things—whom the Virginia Normal League is designed to help. Such is the work that appeals to the deep sympathies of its members—a work that is not, in any sense, a charity; but the richest possible investment, that of the richest returns in flesh and blood and spirit.

"March 11, 1907."

Stirs the Heart.

There is the story—one that stirs the heart to its depths. I am taking the liberty of publishing it, so that hundreds who read it may have the privilege of contributing to this fund. No plea is necessary. The letter and the cause speak for themselves. Where a small loan goes so far, who is too poor to give?

A generous impulse amounts to nothing unless it results in a generous act. What action will the reader take? (Signed) J. D. EGGLESTON, Jr.

Whatever your occupation may be, and however crowded your hours with affairs, do not fail to secure at least a few minutes every day for refreshment of your inner life with a bit of poetry.—Prof. Charles Eliot Norton.

No. 1115.

My Philosophy.

By JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.

Other selections from this author, his portrait, autograph and biographical sketch, have already been printed in this series.

I ain't, ner don't p'tend to be, Much posted on philosophy; But there is times, when all alone, I work out ideas of my own.

And of these same there is a few I'd like to jest refer to you—Pervidin' that you don't object To listen clost' and rickollect.

I allus argy that a man Who does about the best he can Is plenty good enough to suit This lower mundane institute—No matter of his neighbor's talk, Is subject for his neighbor's talk, And critic-minds of ev'ry whim Jest all git up and go fer him!

I knowed a feller once that had The yellor-janders mighty bad,—And each and ev'ry friend he'd meet Would stop and give him some recet Fer curin' of 'em. But he'd say He kin'do' thought they'd go away Without no medicin', and boast That he'd git well without one dose.

He kep' a yellorin' on—and they Perdiclin' that he'd die some day Before he knowed it! Tuck his bed, The feller did, and lost his head, And wandered in his mind a spell—Then rallied, and, at last, got well; But ev'ry friend that said he'd die Went back on him eternally!